

Theological Thinking in Dialogical Kneading (Correspondence Between Archimandrite Sophrony and Father Georges Florovsky)

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Abstract

In the Orthodox medium of the theological schools or ecclesiastical teaching unfortunately there are not presents the published dialogs between professors or other persons involved in the ecclesiastical life. There is not a tradition to publish the personal process of thinking which precedes the theological works. An exemption of this state is the dialog between Father Sophrony Saharov and Father Georges Florovsky. From the beginning of the dialogue, both of them confess their loneliness and express their content for the opportunity of the dialogue. At the same time, also a main feature of their correspondence is their sadness about the situation from de theological schools and teaching. Their proposals for this situation of course are distinctive. Among these, Father Sophrony calls toward a dogmatic experience, based on the union between the spiritual statement and the dogmatic understanding. And this understanding of the dogma should be an existential act. This personal process is similar to the mode to perceive and participate at the liturgical realities. Also, both of the fathers say that in the Orthodox theological gnoseology is most important to avoid the falling to give de primacy to the Essence before the Person.